

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 EB-08 AID-05 SP-02
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /045 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8844
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

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GUATEMALA PASS TO AL WARREN (IESCA); COSTA RICA FOR JOHN
O'GRADY (ARA)

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, ES
SUBJ: PRESIDENT ROMERO'S REACTION TO TELEGRAM FROM GEORGE
MEANY

REF: SAN SALVADOR 3569

1. MINISTER OF INTERIOR ROJAS USED OCCASION OF LUNCHEON IN
HIS HONOR JULY 18 TO CONVEY DIRECT MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT
ROMERO CONCERNING TELEGRAM FROM GEORGE MEANY AND VISIT JULY
17-19 OF AFL-CIO AND AIFLD REPRESENTATIVES.

2. GENERAL ROJAS TOLD EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER THAT HE
HAD BEEN CALLED TO PRESIDENT'S OFFICE MORNING JULY 13 TO
DISCUSS MEANY TELEGRAM. ACCORDING TO ROJAS, PRESIDENT VIS-
IBLY ANNOYED AT TONE AND ACCUSATORY WORDING OF TELEGRAM.
PRESIDENT'S MAJOR COMPLAINT WAS THAT TELEGRAM ACCEPTED
UNION COMUNAL SALVADORENA (UCS) STATEMENT OF UNCOOPERATIVE
ATTITUDE OF GOES AT FACE VALUE WITHOUT BOTHERING TO DETER-
MINE TRUE FACTS. PRESIDENT SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT GEN.
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ROJAS MAKE KNOWN HIS DISPLEASURE WITH AFL-CIO AND AIFLD AP-
PROACH TO UCS PROBLEM AND POINT OUT AREAS IN WHICH GOES HAD
FINANCING AND SUPPORT FOR ITS INDEPENDENT (NON-ALIGNED)
STATUS. PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY STATED UCS PROBLEMS WERE DUE
PRIMARILY TO INTRNAL DISSENSION AND LACK OF COOPERATION BET-
WEEN STILL-COMPETING GROUPS, NOT LACK OF GOES SUPPORT.
ROMERO STATED THAT AFL-CIO AND AIFLD GROUP WELCOME TO SPEAK,

FIRST TO TECHNICAL ADVISORS ASSIGNED BY GOES TO ASSIST UCS, THEN TO COMMITTEE OF MINISTRIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN UCS MATTERS. AFTER GROUP RECEIVES BASIC FACTS AND POINT-BY-POINT REFUTATION OF CHARGES IN MEANY TELEGRAM FROM INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS IN GOES MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED, THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL THERE BE POSSIBILITY OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AS REQUESTED.

3. COMMENT: STRONG IMPLICATION THAT PRESIDENT FEELS THAT HE AND GOES HAVE BEEN TRIED AND CONDEMNED WITHOUT TRIAL OR EVEN HEARING. MEETING OF VISITING GROUP WITH PRESIDENT OR OTHER HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS HAS APPARENTLY BEEN VETOED BY PRESIDENT PRIOR TO CONSULTATION AND BRIEFING BY LOWER LEVEL GOES OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH UCS MATTERS. END COMMENT.

4. FOR GUATEMALA, SUGGEST AL WARREN OR OTHER AIFLD OFFICIAL CONVEY SUBSTANCE OF PRESIDENT'S REACTION TELEPHONICALLY TO ANDY MCLELLAN AND OTHER MEMBERS OF VISITING GROUP TO ALERT THEM TO POSSIBILITY OF COOL RECEPTION BY GOES.
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Message Attributes

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